

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08
TRSE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 DHA-02 /078 W
-----141825Z 036800 /53

R 141122Z FEB 77 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9789
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMCONSUL GOTEBORG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0671

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SW
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH SWEDISH AMBASSADOR TO THE US

REF: STOCKHOLM 658 (NOTAL)

1. WHILE IN STOCKHOLM FOR CONSULTATION, SWEDISH
AMBASSADOR TO THE US WILHELM WACHTMEISTER, IN RESPONSE TO
MY INVITATION, CAME TO THE EMBASSY FEBRUARY 11 FOR AN
INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF US-SWEDISH RELATIONS. WE AGREED
THERE WERE FEW REAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
WACHTMEISTER NOTED THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME HE HAD
HAD SUCH AN EXCHANGE WITH AN EMBASSY, AND THAT HE FOUND
IT MOST USEFUL. IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION
WACHTMEISTER MADE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS:

2. OFFICIAL VISITS: MOST OF HIS CONSULTATION TIME WAS
SPENT DISCUSSING HIS PROPOSAL THAT INCREASED CONTACT
BETWEEN US AND SWEDISH GOVERNMENT MEMBERS IS DESIRABLE,
GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE US HAS EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS
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ON EUROPEAN ISSUES IN FORA WHICH EXCLUDE SWEDEN. HE
REPORTED THAT HIS THOUGHTS WERE RECEIVED FAVORABLY IN THE
GOS, AND THAT A NUMBER OF MINISTERS (OF EDUCATION JAN-ERIK
WIKSTROM, OF INDUSTRY NILS ASLING, OF TRADE STEFFAN
BURENSTAM-LINDER, OF DEFENSE ERIC KRONMARK, OF AID OLA
UL STEN) HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISITING THE US.
WACHTMEISTER NOTED WITH PLEASURE THAT MINISTER OF ECONOMY

GOSTA BOHMAN WILL BE VISITING THE US IN APRIL AND SEPTEMBER, THAT A SUMMER VISIT BY FOREIGN MINISTER KARIN SODER IS A POSSIBILITY, AND THAT COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES SYNNERGREN IS ARRIVING IN APRIL. HE ADDED THAT HE WILL BE DISCUSSING HIS PROPOSALS FOR INCREASED VISIT IN WASHINGTON, AND THAT US OFFICIALS ARE CERTAINLY WELCOME IN STOCKHOLM.

3. STANSAAB: WACHTMEISER RAISED THE MATTER OF STANSAAB'S APPLICATION FOR EXPORT LICENSES AND MADE A REQUEST ON BEHALF OF STANSAAB DIRECTOR WEDELL FOR ANOTHER HEARING SHOULD A NEGATIVE DECISION BE CONTEMPLATED (REFTEL). I ASSURED WACHTMEISTER THAT WE WOULD PASS HIS REQUEST ALONG, AND THAT THE MATTER WAS RECEIVING THOROUGH AND CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON.

4. SPECIALTY STEEL: WACHTMEISTER SAID HE PLANS TO CONTACT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION ABOUT THE SPECIALTY STEEL PROBLEM AND TERMED IMPOSITION OF THE QUOTAS AS AN 'UNPLEASANT' PRINCIPLE WHICH SHOULD BE SCRAPPED. HE ADMITTED THAT 'SUFFERING' IS TOO STRONG A TERM TO APPLY TO THE SWEDISH PRODUCERS' SITUATION, BUT MAINTAINED THAT THE QUOTAS, SOME OF WHICH ARE TOO LOW, ARE CAUSING SOME PROBLEMS - A 'MINOR IRRITANT' WAS HIS PHRASE.

5. OTHER VISITS: THERE HAS BEEN SOME TALK OF AN AFL-CIO VISIT TO SWEDEN, WACHTMEISTER SAID, BUT HE HAD NO DETAILS. MENTION OF RUMOR THAT MEANY HAD BEEN INVITED SURPRISED WATCHMEISTER, THOUGH AN MFA CONFIDENTIAL

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AIDE REMARKED THAT HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT MEANY HAD BEEN INVITED IN AN OFF-HAND WAY AND HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE. WACHTMEISTER ADDED THAT TWO PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES, EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY, WILL BE VISITING THE US THIS SPRING, AND THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WOULD STOP IN WASHINGTON THIS FALL FOLLOWING A TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA.

6. IN SUMMING UP, WACHTMEISTER OBSERVED THAT RECENT STATEMENTS BY THE NEW USG ARE CLOSE TO THE SWEDISH PHILOSOPHY ON HUMAN RIGHTS, THE THIRD WORLD, AND DISARMAMENT, AND EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT THE US AND SWEDEN CAN WORK TOGETHER. HE ALSO VOICED THE HOPE THAT THE SWEDISH COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN PROPOSAL TO THE CCD CAN MOVE FORWARD, AND WAS GRATIFIED TO FIND ANOTHER IMPORTANT AREA FOR US-SWEDISH COOPERATION.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

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